

What is Claimed is:

1. A plasma processing apparatus, wherein a plasma arc is generated from a plasma torch composed of an electrode and a nozzle to perform plasma work on a workpiece and which is equipped with a plurality of consumable parts, the definition of the consumable part being an electrode and/or a nozzle, the apparatus comprising:

(a) memory means for storing consumption data on every consumable part, the consumption data being used for calculation of consumption;

(b) selecting means for selecting the consumption data corresponding to a consumable part in use;

(c) computing means for calculating consumption based on the consumption data selected by the selecting means; and

(d) displaying means for displaying the consumption calculated by the computing means.

2. The plasma processing apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising operation stopping means for stopping the operation of the plasma processing apparatus upon completion of a processing operation if the consumption calculated by the computing means reaches the preset consumption value.

3. The plasma processing apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising warning means for raising an alarm if the consumption calculated by the computing means reaches a preset consumption value.

4. The plasma processing apparatus according to claim 3 further comprising operation stopping means for stopping the operation of the plasma processing apparatus upon completion of a processing operation

if the consumption calculated by the computing means reaches the preset consumption value.

5. The plasma processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the consumption data includes some or all of data items consisting of the number of arcing events, arcing time and arc current.

6. The plasma processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the selecting means specifies a consumable part to be used by referring to processing data input to the memory means.